

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes _____
no _____

Property Name: Schroeder Greenhouse Property Inventory Number: BA-3113
Address: 9861 and 9871 Belair Road City: Perry Hall Zip Code: 21128-9514
County: Baltimore County USGS Topographic Map: White Marsh
Owner: Robert L. and Susan W. Rye Is the property being evaluated a district? yes
Tax Parcel Number: 431 & 589 Tax Map Number: 63 Tax Account ID Number: 1118087500/252
Project: Honeygo Boulevard Agency: Baltimore County
Site visit by MHT staff: X no yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property is located within a historic district? yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes Name of District: _____
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible X yes no

Criteria: X A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The buildings at BA-3113 occupy a 10.4-acre site consisting of a greenhouse complex, concrete block storage building/barn, concrete block flower shop (now used as a utility building), wood frame house, wood frame garage, and a concrete block storage building. Set on a slope, the two gabled, metal frame greenhouses are oriented northwest to southeast with adjoining wood frame ancillary structures attached to the northwest end. The greenhouses have wood muntins separating the individual windowpanes with gable vents and are accessed through wood doors in the gable ends. The three adjoining wood frame structures are shed roofed and are aligned perpendicular to the gable ends of the greenhouses. Northeast to southwest the buildings are a garage, sorting/packing room, and a boiler room. A tall slender brick smoke stack projects from the boiler room where it abuts the sorting/packing room and garage. The wood frame buildings are covered with asbestos shingles and have a variety of windows. A shed-roofed pole greenhouse covered with plastic abuts the southeast wall of the boiler and packing/sorting rooms. The owner indicates that this greenhouse complex was constructed in 1913 (Mr. Rye personal communication March 2003).

A gabled, one and one-half story concrete block storage building/barn with an asphalt shingle roof stands approximately nine meters (30 ft) from the southeast corner of the greenhouse. A sliding wood plank door is located in the southeast corner of the

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended _____
Criteria: X A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
MHT Comments

Andrew Lewis
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services
B. Kuntz
Reviewer, NR Program

06/02/03
Date
6/2/03
Date

200301511

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Inventory Number: BA-3113

Page 2

Two-pane casement windows provide light. Large openings in the gables covered with wood doors provide access to the roof space. Asbestos shingles cover the gables.

A small, modern, side gabled, one story concrete block utility building with an asphalt shingle roof stands approximately 12 meters (39 ft) from the northeast corner of the greenhouse. A shed-roofed porch with a poured concrete slab runs the length of the west elevation. According to the property owner, this structure housed a flower shop.

Also associated with the property, but separated from the greenhouse area by a stand of trees, is a two and one-half story wood frame dwelling on a raised concrete block foundation. Attached to the southwest corner of the south (rear) elevation is a hipped roof, two-story, one bay by one bay wing. A gabled one bay by one bay enclosed entry porch is attached to the northwest corner of the north (front) façade. Reached by a five-step brick stairway, the modern entry door is located on the west side of the porch. Doors are also located in the northeast corner of the east elevation and the same elevation in the wing. Awnings protect these two doors. Bulkhead doors are located next to the steps leading to the door on the east elevation.

The irregularly arranged windows are primarily three-over-one double hung sash with aluminum triple track storm windows on the first and second stories. The north façade displays paired gable windows while the south elevation has two gable windows. Tripartite windows are located in the southwest corner of the first floor on the west elevation and centrally on the second floor south elevation of the wing. Large gable dormers are centrally located on each side of the roof. Slate covers the roofs of the main block, dormers, and front porch while asphalt shingles cover the wing. The entire house except the dormers is covered in vinyl siding. The owner stated that this house was built in 1936 and was the property's primary residence. It is now vacant.

A small, front gabled domestic storage building, constructed of concrete block stands approximately 18 meters (59 ft) east of the northeast corner of the dwelling. Next to this shed is a front gabled two-car garage with a wood overhead door. A wood entry door allows pedestrian access. The body of the garage is stuccoed while asbestos shingles cover the gables. A six-paned casement window is present in the west gable. A small shed roofed animal shelter leans against the east (rear) elevation.

HISTORIC BACKGROUND

The land around present-day Perry Hall was originally patented as a 1000 acre tract in 1684 to George Lingan. Called The Adventure, the property by 1773 was owned by prominent planter Corbin Lee who subsequently began construction of a large Georgian-style mansion on a bluff overlooking the Belair Road (Route 1). Lee died before its completion, and in 1774, Harry Dorsey Gough purchased the property and renamed the property Perry Hall (Lacey 1979:15). By the mid-nineteenth century, much of the area around Perry Hall was agricultural with grain representing the main staple. The community also maintained a number of iron ore mines, forges, and furnaces that supplied Baltimore up until the early twentieth century (Lacey 1979:9).

Through the 1850s most of the settlers in the region were of English and Irish descent. In the area of the Schroeder Farmstead (BA-3112) and adjacent Schroeder Greenhouse Property (BA-3113), near the intersection of Old Forge and Belair Roads, merchant H.D.G. Carroll is listed as the owner of the property on the 1850 Sidney Map of Baltimore County (1850 Sidney Map; Marks 2000:58). H.D.G. Carroll played an integral role in subdividing the old Perry Hall estate into several smaller parcels (Marks 2000: 59). Sometime prior to 1866, however, the newly partitioned property had passed to Robert Purviance & Sons, for on June 22 of that year, Purviance sold the 60+ acre lot to John Schroeder (Baltimore County Land Records, Liber JHL 50, Folio 156). Schroeder was one of a number of newly arrived German immigrants who settled near the crossroads of Old Forge and Belair Roads. By the 1870s the vicinity became known as Germantown (1877 Hopkins Map; Marks 2000: 55).

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

MHT Comments

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Inventory Number: BA-3113

Page 3

By the 1870s, the area's farmers in and around Germantown began to grow nursery crops particularly cut flowers for the large Baltimore market (Marks 2000:60). Cut flowers represented a very practical crop for many of these German settlers who owned small lots. While labor intensive, flowers did not require a significant number of acres and did not rapidly exhaust the soil (McGrain 1990: 40). By the early twentieth century the Akehurst, Rye and Schroeder families had established themselves in the area's burgeoning nursery business (Marks 2000:62; Lacey 1979:15). The Rye family was particularly known for growing quality carnations (Marks 2000:60). The Ryes continue to raise cut flowers at this property today.

The main dwelling and greenhouse were built after September 21, 1911 when Augustus R. Schroeder the son of John Schroeder, and Annie P. Schroeder sold 25 ¼ acres to William H. and Mary E. Schroeder (Baltimore County Land Records, Liber WPC 384, Folio 365). According to the owner, the greenhouse was built in 1913 (Mr. Rye personal communication March 2003), but the house wasn't built until 1936, suggesting that the family lived in another house in the interim – possibly at the Schroeder Farmstead. It remains unclear when the adjacent Schroeder Farmstead was separated from the Greenhouse property.

Much of the area along Belair Road became suburbanized beginning in the 1960s. Several greenhouses, including at least one owned by the Rye Brothers survive in the area and a number of nurseries and florists are situated on Old Forge and Belair Roads. On a field trip in March 2003, three greenhouses in and around Perry Hall were noted, some of which still retain their distinctive furnace smokestacks which were usually constructed of brick. However, at least two of the former, larger greenhouses along nearby Joppa Road that appeared on a topographic map from 1949 seem to no longer exist (U.S. Army 1949). Furthermore, a historic greenhouse located on the south side of Joppa Road to the east of Honeygo Run has been replaced by a modern one.

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION

The Schroeder Greenhouse Property, located in Perry Hall, Baltimore County, was not previously surveyed and no determination of eligibility has been issued for the resource. Based on historical research, visual inspection, and an application of the criteria outlined in National Register Bulletin 15 How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (NPS 1997a), the Schroeder Greenhouse Property is historically significant under National Register Criteria A and C for local patterns of history and as representative and operational example of a surviving early twentieth century commercial cut flower industry. The property is notable for its large greenhouse complex, which continues to function as an integral part of the Rye family's cut flower business. The greenhouse complex appears to be essentially historically and architecturally intact and it exemplifies an important historic industry in the fast-growing Perry Hall area, an industry that continues to survive on a relatively small scale into the 21st century. A brief field reconnaissance conducted in March 2003 suggests that some of the historic greenhouses from this area no longer exist, and thus helps bolster the significance of the Schroeder Greenhouse Property. Furthermore, the owner, Mr. Rye, stated that he plans to demolish the greenhouse complex in the near future, as he is reaching retirement (personal communication March 2003).

Historical research failed to associate the property with persons of local, state, or national significance. Therefore, the Schroeder Greenhouse Property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B. Finally, no archaeological investigation or testing was conducted on this property and the property's potential for National Register eligibility under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G ____ None

MHT Comments

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The proposed National Register boundary for the Schroeder Greenhouse Property should include both the parcel on which the house, domestic outbuilding, and garage stand (Map 63, Grid 22, Parcel 589), which contains 2,396 square feet and the parcel on which the greenhouse complex, (former) flower shop, and storage building stand (Map 63, Grid 22, Parcel 431), which itself comprises 9.63 acres (3.9 hectares). Together, these two, contiguous parcels include the remaining lands and buildings that were used historically and that continue to be used for the cut flower business. The parcels front on Belair Road (Route 1). All buildings should be considered contributing to this resource. The proposed boundary was drawn to include the greenhouse complex and the extant structures historically associated with the Schroeder Greenhouse Property, as is required by National Register Bulletin Number 21 (National Park Service 1997B).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anonymous

1915 Atlas of Baltimore County.

Baltimore County Land Records.

Hopkins, G. M.

1877 Atlas of Baltimore County.

Lacey, Matilda C.

1970 (1979) Perry Hall: So called since 1775. Perry Hall, Maryland: Perry Hall Improvement Association. Largely reprinted with alterations in 1979.

Marks, David.

2000 Crossroads: The History of Perry Hall, Maryland. Baltimore, Md: Gateway Press, Inc.

McGrain, John W.

2000 An Agricultural History of Baltimore County, Maryland. Self-published.

National Park Service

1997a National Register Bulletin Number 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

1997b National Register Bulletin Number 21, Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties. United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

Rye, Robert L.

Personal Communication, March 2003.

Sidney, J(ames) C.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D Considerations: _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ E _____ F _____ G _____ None

MHT Comments

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Inventory Number: BA-3113

Page 5

1850 Map of the City and County Baltimore Maryland from Original Surveys by J.C. Sidney, C.E. and P.J. Browne. James M. Stephens, publishers, Baltimore, Maryland.

U.S. Army Map Service

1949 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle; White Marsh, Maryland. Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Map Service (AM). On file, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

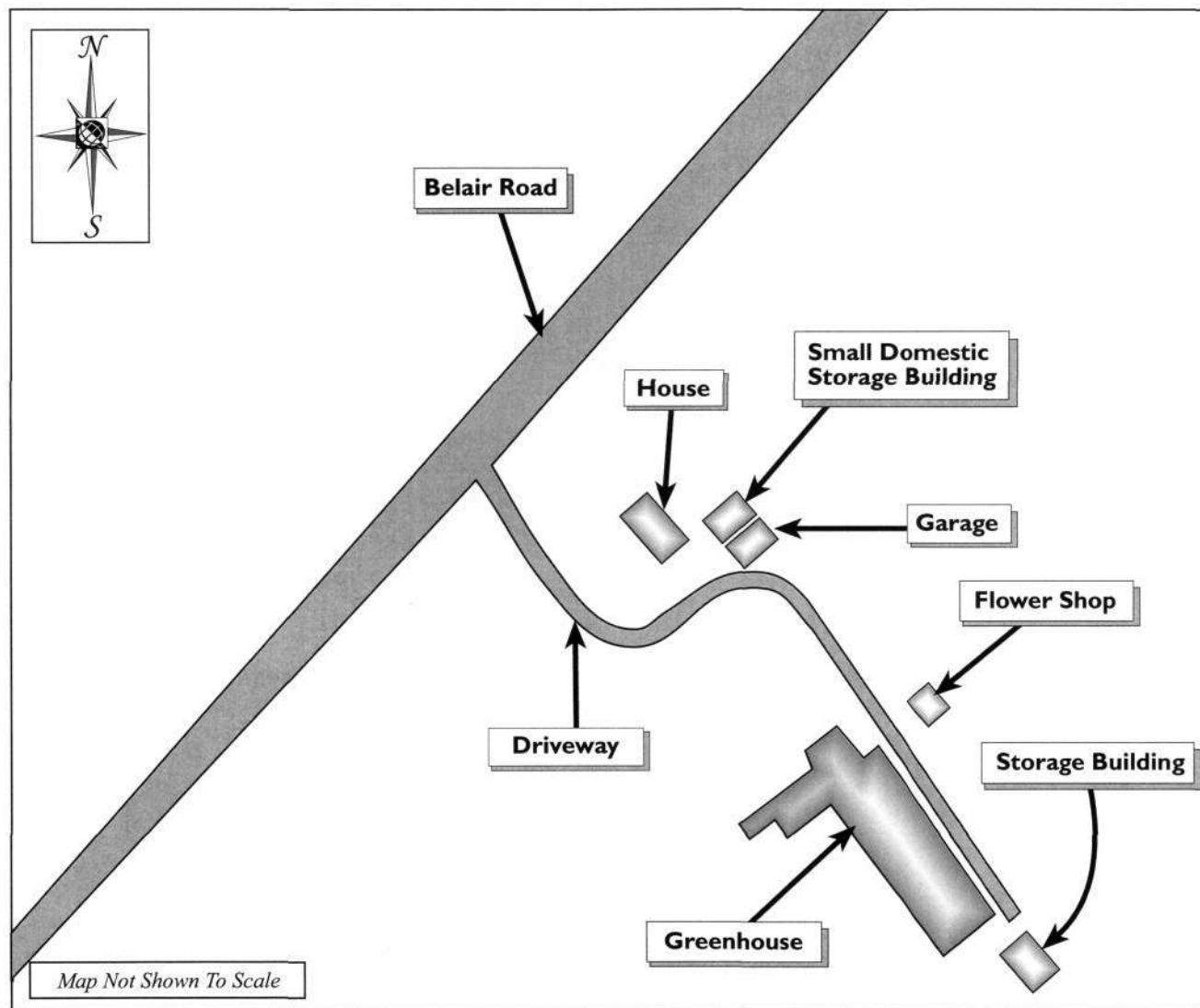
USGS

1986 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle; Whitemarsh, Maryland (original 1949, photorevised in 1966 and 1986), USGS, Reston, Virginia.

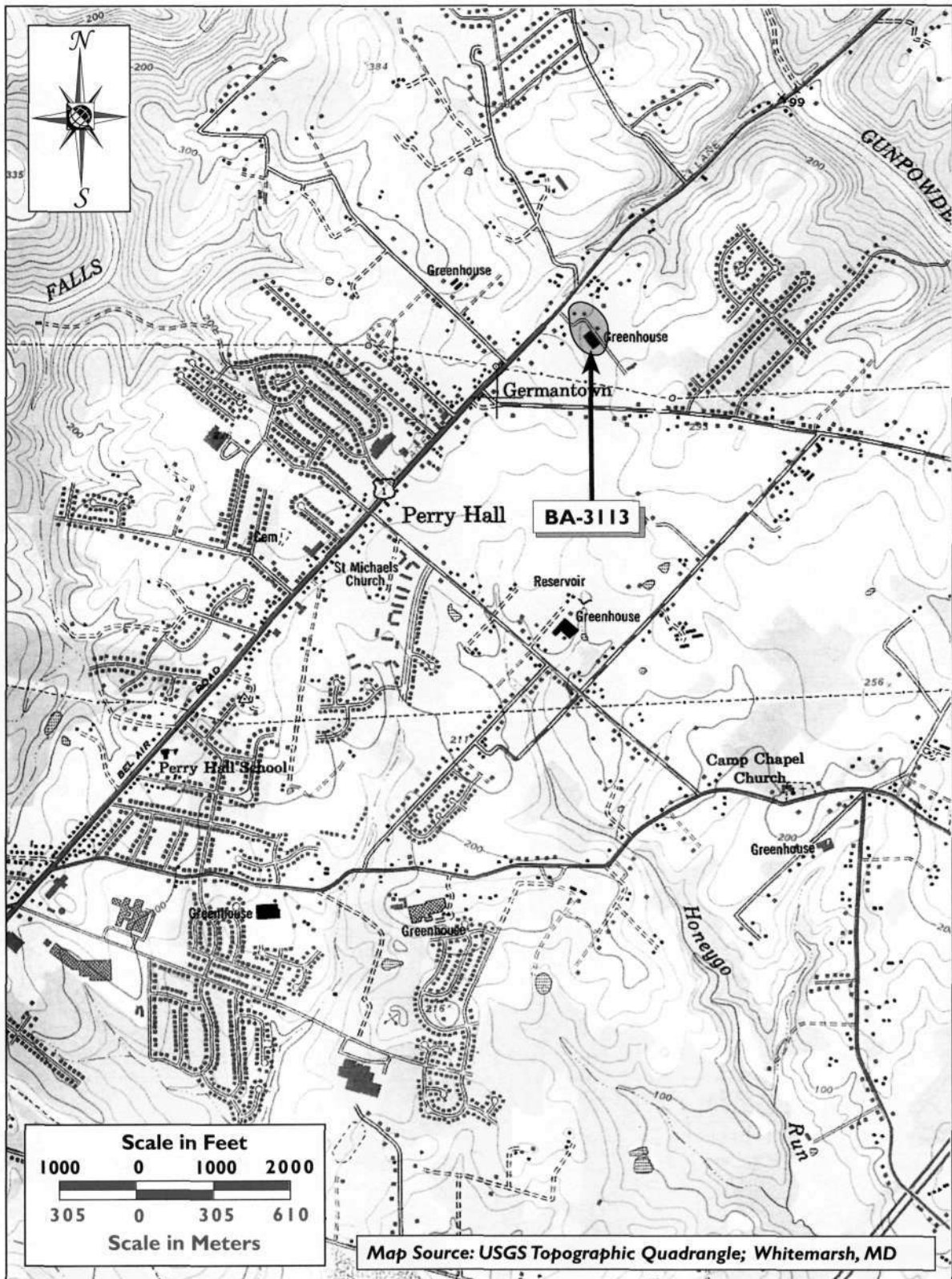
Prepared by: Lauren C. Archibald & Kirk Ranzetta,

Date Prepared: 4/18/2003

**Property BA 3113 - Schroeder Greenhouse Property
Site Plan Attachment**



Property BA 3113 - Schroeder Greenhouse Property Location Map





BA - 3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

Greenhouse, view to southwest, showing gable ends in foreground,
plant beds to left (west), and boiler room with smokestack
in rear.

No. 1 of 9

APRIL 2003 (NO. 3A) 004
954 40 N N N-3-402 (053)



BA - 3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

Greenhouse, view to east showing frame boiler room with rear
sheds and brick smokestack.

No. 2 of 9

APRIL 2003 (NO. 54) 085
954 40 N N N-2-552 (053)



BA-3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

Greenhouse, view to south showing main entrance and frame

sorting room to right.

No. 3 of 9

APRIL 2003(No.##)001
954 40 N N N-1-642 (053)



BA - 3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SFP0

Concrete block storage building, view to south

No. 4 of 9

APRIL 2003 (No. 24) 003
954 40 N N N-4-482 (053)



BA-3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property
Baltimore County, Maryland
Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

Flower shop, view to northeast

No. 5 of 9

APRIL 2003(No. 1A) 002
954 40 N N N-4 312 (053)



BA-3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

House, side and rear elevations, view to
northwest

No. 6 of 9

565012X 3>005 +00+00+00-05
04/14/03 Larmann Photo



565012< 2>008 +00+00+00-02
04/14/03 Larmion Photo

BA-3113

Schroeder Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

House, front and side elevations, view to
Southeast

No. 7 of 9



BA-3113

Schneider Greenhouse Property

Baltimore County, Maryland

Lauren Archibald

March 2003

MD SHPO

Small storage building

No. 8 of 9

565012< 2>006 +00+00+00-02
04/14/03 Larmom Photo



BA-3113
Schroeder Greenhouse Property
Baltimore County, Maryland
Lauren Archibald
March 2003
MD SHPO
Garage, view to east
No. 9 of 9

565012< 1>007 +00+00+00-02
04/14/03 Larmon Photo